

review of this issue found, in fact, as Senator Hall said, they did recommend, through the technical review, a licensure. That was followed, as Senator Hall said, with the Director of Health saying, no, I don't think we need to do that. The bill did not pass, was considered and then we suggested, since it wasn't clear what we should do, they go back in again. When they came back in again, they were...really struck out the last time. There was no credentialing recommended by the technical committee, no credentialing recommended by the Board of Health, and no credentialing by the Director of Health. So the first time through they said licensure. The second time through they said, no, let's not do anything. So the second time through didn't prove to be a charm, in fact it really hurt their cause. I, personally, feel the big problem with the bill, and Senator Hall I know needs some more time to go through the amendments and what he's trying to do, but the big problem with the bill, in my estimation, is in nutrition you have a very difficult time as it is with counselors because there are so many people out there. Counseling is something a lot of people do in all different kinds of activity. Nutrition is something that we all seem to get involved in. It's something that is a part of our lives, it is very important. So you've gotten nutritional advice that is coming from all directions, some of it good and some of it, frankly, bad. There are some problems out there. But some of it that seems crazy today, or seemed crazy yesterday, becomes accepted and good practice in the future. It's a funny world because nutrition is something that you all know it. You can take examples of where they recommended, in the old days, you not do something and now they are saying just the opposite in nutrition. It is just an evolving field. So I think it is very difficult, and many people object to the concept of stifling the discussion on nutrition. Some of it, obviously, can hurt you, and that is where the problem comes in. But where you have that problem there is the ability of the Health Department to step in and there are consumer protection laws, and that is what the Director of Health says we ought to do, that we can step in and deal with those people that are the quacks out there giving nutr ion advice, hurting people. We want to stop that activity. But the more general, nutritional advice and sharing of information, even though it may not be what dietitians and some people may think makes sense, nevertheless has a place in our democratic society, an open society, one of open minds in trying to look for the best alternatives, as long as it doesn't hurt the public. That is the line that is drawn. That is where the line has been